

From: [Irizarry, Gilberto](#)
To: [Schlieger, Brian](#); [Acting Administrator](#); [Mccarthy, Gina](#); [Stanislaus, Mathy](#); [Feldt, Lisa](#); [Breen, Barry](#); [Stanton, Larry](#); [Reynolds, Thomas](#); [Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria](#); [Johnson, Alisha](#); [Tulis, Dana](#); [KeyesFleming, Gwen](#); [Matthiessen, Craig](#); [Jennings, Kim](#); [Gray, David](#); [Curry, Ron](#); [Coleman, Sam](#); [Edlund, Carl](#); [Phillips, Pam](#); [Broyles, Ragan](#); [McQuiddy, David](#)
Subject: HQ EOC Reporting on Williams Olefins Plant Explosion Situation
Date: Friday, June 14, 2013 8:07:47 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)

The HQ EOC continues to experience technical problems with the Microsoft Outlook EOC e-mail. The planned submission of an EOC update report on this situation by 9:30 am (eastern) is now being delayed. At this time, we have no ETA for an update report, but will certainly push to issue it ASAP. We'll continue to coordinate with R6.

Thanks,

E-mail from Blackberry. Please excuse typos.

Gilberto "Tito" Irizarry, Director
Program Operations & Coordination Division
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From: Schlieger, Brian
Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2013 9:13:26 PM
To: Acting Administrator; Mccarthy, Gina; Stanislaus, Mathy; Feldt, Lisa; Breen, Barry; Stanton, Larry; Reynolds, Thomas; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria; Johnson, Alisha; Tulis, Dana; Irizarry, Gilberto; KeyesFleming, Gwen; Matthiessen, Craig; Jennings, Kim; Gray, David; Curry, Ron; Coleman, Sam; Edlund, Carl; Phillips, Pam; Broyles, Ragan; McQuiddy, David
Subject: Special Situation Report: Williams Olefins Plant Explosion, Geismar, Ascension Parish, LA

This message is being sent on behalf of the HQEOC watch officer email mailbox by the on duty officer in an official capacity, due to technical difficulties with the Outlook Web App, Light version.



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Special Situation Report:

Williams Olefins Plant Explosion, Geismar, Ascension Parish, LA

US Environmental Protection Agency

Report as of 2000 hours, 6/13/13

Situation Overview:

- Unconfirmed initial reports indicate that an explosion occurred at approximately 0830 hrs at the Williams Olefins chemical plant in Geismar, LA , which may have been caused by an explosion in a boiler room.
- Reportedly, the explosion caused fires and additional explosions at the facility.
- According to the RMP report, the chemicals of concern with reportable quantities stored at the facility include: chlorine (12,000 lbs); 1,3- butadiene (2,400,000 lbs); ethane (80,000 lbs); propane (200,000 lbs); propylene (750,000 lbs); ethylene (130,000 lbs); however, there is no confirmation of chemicals actually involved in the fire at this time.
- Reports indicate that over 300 workers were evacuated from the site, at least 49 people were evacuated by ambulance, there is 1 confirmed fatality and 1 person missing (presumed dead).
- The two-mile precautionary shelter-in-place order originally issued to local residents has been reduced.
- Most of the fire has been extinguished; there is only fire associated with flaring.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions:

- Local fire and hazmat teams, Louisiana State Police, and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) are on-scene.
- LDEQ air monitoring results along Hwy 30 between Hwy 3115 and Hwy 73 indicate no levels of contaminants above background concentrations (this is the prevalent direction of the plume).
- The USCG deployed a federal OSC Representative from Sector New Orleans Marine Safety Unit.

- The NOC continues to reach out to USCG, TSA, FEMA, NICC, EPA and Louisiana Fusion Center. An Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center plume model was produced.

EPA Actions:

- The R6 REOC is in contact with LDEQ will continue to coordinate with them.
- R6 START contractors and an R6 OSC are on-scene scene and will conduct air monitoring throughout the night.
- LDEQ requested EPA assistance for air monitoring during the afterhours period.
- In addition, R6 is reviewing the Facility RMP report and conducting a more extensive review of facility's compliance history. (See attachment)

Media Interest: High

The HQ EOC will continue to coordinate with the R6 REOC and provide additional updates as appropriate.



Sent by,

Brian Schlieger
 Watch Officer
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 Headquarters Emergency Operations Center

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